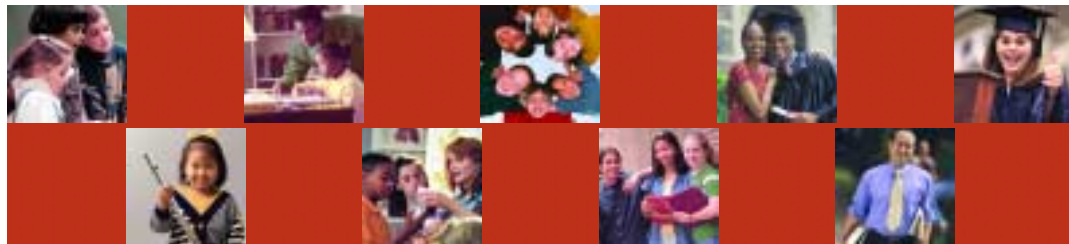


the condition of education 2003



INDICATOR 15

Voting Participation

The indicator and corresponding tables are taken directly from *The Condition of Education 2003*. Therefore, the page numbers may not be sequential.

Additional information about the survey data and supplementary notes can be found in the full report. For a copy of *The Condition of Education 2003*, visit the NCES web site (<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2003067>) or contact ED PUBs at 1-877-4ED-PUBS.

Suggested Citation:

U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, *The Condition of Education 2003*, NCES 2003-067, Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office, 2003.

Social and Cultural Outcomes

Voting Participation

The more education people have, the more likely they are to vote in presidential and congressional elections.

In the 2000 presidential election, 70 percent of the U.S. voting-age citizen population (18 years of age and older) was registered to vote and 59 percent voted (see supplemental table 15-1). Among these citizens, the more education a person possessed, the more likely that person was to be registered to vote and to vote. For example, 52 percent of voting-age citizens who had not completed high school were registered to vote in 2000, compared with 83 percent of those with a bachelor's degree or higher. Thirty-eight percent of citizens who had not completed high school voted in 2000, compared with 77 percent of those with a bachelor's degree or higher.

In addition to the positive relationship between educational attainment and voting, there were also positive relationships between voting and length of residence, and voting and age in 2000. The longer a person resided in one place, the more likely that person was to vote. Among age groups, the likelihood of voting was higher among older rather than younger individuals. Regardless of a person's age, however, a positive relationship between educational attainment and voting was present; that is, within each age group, those with more education were

more likely to report voting than those with less education (see supplemental table 15-1).

The voting rate in presidential elections has historically been higher than in congressional elections, so it is necessary to consider these two types of elections separately (U.S. Department of Commerce 2002). Among U.S. citizens 18 years of age and older, the voting rate increased between 1996 and 2000 (from 58 to 59 percent), while it decreased between 1994 and 1998 (from 48 to 45 percent). In all four elections, there was a positive relationship between educational attainment and voting; citizens with more education were more likely to register and to vote (see supplemental table 15-2).

Young adults ages 18–24 were the least likely age group to vote. Among these citizens, those who were enrolled in college were more likely to have voted in the 2000 election than their peers who were not enrolled. On the other hand, they were less likely to have voted than their peers who were no longer enrolled but had already earned a bachelor's degree. White and Black citizens ages 18–24 were more likely to vote than their Hispanic peers (see supplemental table 15-3).

NOTE: The survey sample includes the civilian, noninstitutionalized population. Years in which the president is elected, as well as congressional, state, and local officials (1996 and 2000), are called "presidential elections." Off years, in which congressional, state, and local officials are elected but the president is not (1994 and 1998), are called "congressional elections." For each year, information was collected from respondents 2 weeks after the election. These estimates may differ from administrative data or data from exit polls. See *supplemental note 2* for further information.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey (CPS), November 2000 Voting and Registration Supplement, previously unpublished tabulation (December 2002).

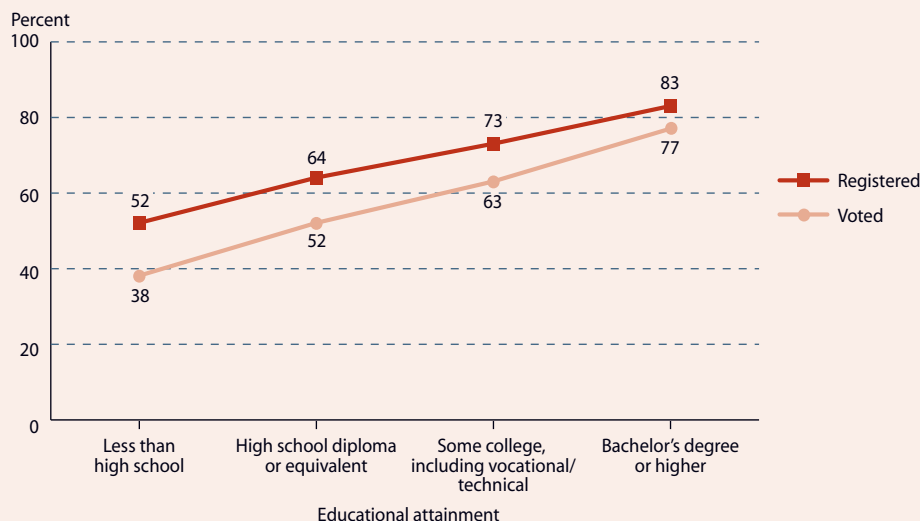
FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Supplemental Notes 1, 2
Supplemental Tables 15-1,
15-2, 15-3

U.S. Department of Commerce
2002



VOTING PARTICIPATION: Registration and voting rates for U.S. citizens ages 18 and older, by educational attainment: November 2000



Voting Participation

Table 15-1. Percentage of U.S. citizens ages 18 and older who reported being registered to vote and voting, by educational attainment and selected characteristics: November 2000

Characteristic	Less than high school		High school diploma or equivalent		Some college, including vocational/technical		Bachelor's degree or higher		Total	
	Registered	Voted	Registered	Voted	Registered	Voted	Registered	Voted	Registered	Voted
Total	52.2	38.4	63.9	52.5	73.3	63.1	83.2	77.5	69.5	59.5
Sex										
Male	50.2	37.9	61.1	49.7	72.2	61.4	82.5	76.6	68.0	58.1
Female	54.2	38.9	66.3	54.8	74.2	64.6	84.0	78.4	70.9	60.7
Age										
18–24	28.9	17.7	43.2	28.2	60.8	45.0	75.3	61.3	50.7	36.1
25–34	38.1	21.7	52.5	37.7	65.7	52.4	77.8	68.4	63.3	50.5
35–44	43.4	27.7	62.6	50.4	74.7	65.3	83.2	78.2	70.2	60.5
45–54	48.6	35.5	66.9	56.7	78.9	70.9	85.2	81.2	74.3	66.3
55–64	59.9	46.6	74.7	66.5	82.8	77.8	87.7	84.5	77.2	70.1
65 and above	67.8	53.8	78.6	70.0	86.3	80.9	88.4	84.8	78.4	69.6
Race/ethnicity ¹										
American Indian	51.8	32.7	56.2	43.0	61.9	53.6	73.0	68.0	58.8	46.7
Asian/Pacific Islander	34.2	28.1	45.1	35.3	46.6	36.6	64.5	56.2	52.1	43.3
Black	59.0	44.2	62.6	51.7	72.7	62.3	81.2	75.6	67.6	56.9
White	52.4	38.3	65.3	54.0	74.9	65.0	84.6	79.1	71.6	61.8
Hispanic	46.0	34.1	55.5	41.8	65.0	52.3	77.7	69.5	57.3	45.1
Family income										
Less than \$15,000	51.8	34.9	58.7	42.0	63.5	50.6	70.7	62.0	57.3	41.6
\$15,000–29,999	56.7	41.7	64.4	52.4	73.7	61.0	79.1	69.2	65.9	53.1
\$30,000–49,999	53.5	39.5	67.6	56.2	78.3	67.7	84.9	79.7	71.9	61.3
\$50,000–74,999	49.4	38.1	72.5	61.1	79.4	69.7	88.6	83.5	77.9	68.7
\$75,000 or more	51.0	37.4	71.5	63.4	79.7	70.4	89.9	84.8	82.1	74.9
Length of residence										
Less than 1 month	35.8	20.5	47.5	27.2	58.1	39.0	76.8	64.1	54.1	36.3
1–6 months	36.1	19.6	50.1	33.3	64.8	48.7	81.1	69.9	60.3	45.2
7–11 months	39.1	22.9	49.3	34.4	67.3	50.1	83.8	75.4	61.6	47.4
1–2 years	45.9	29.4	59.3	45.2	73.7	62.1	87.3	78.9	70.0	58.0
3–4 years	51.5	36.8	67.3	52.9	79.4	67.3	90.7	84.7	75.1	63.5
5 years or longer	65.1	50.4	78.3	67.5	85.8	76.8	94.4	89.9	81.9	72.4
Employment status										
Employed	46.0	31.9	62.2	50.3	73.5	62.9	83.5	77.5	70.4	60.5
Unemployed	36.1	21.9	48.2	33.7	62.3	53.2	78.8	69.9	52.3	39.8
Not in labor force	57.3	43.7	68.3	58.1	73.6	64.5	82.6	78.0	68.9	58.9

See notes at end of table.

Voting Participation

Table 15-1. Percentage of U.S. citizens ages 18 and older who reported being registered to vote and voting, by educational attainment and selected characteristics: November 2000—Continued

Characteristic	Less than high school		High school diploma or equivalent		Some college, including vocational/technical		Bachelor's degree or higher		Total	
	Registered	Voted	Registered	Voted	Registered	Voted	Registered	Voted	Registered	Voted
Citizenship										
U.S. born	52.6	38.1	64.3	52.7	73.9	63.7	84.4	78.7	70.2	60.0
Naturalized	49.2	41.8	54.3	46.8	59.9	51.5	67.7	60.6	58.1	50.6
Region										
Northeast	54.9	41.7	64.4	54.0	71.5	62.2	82.9	76.7	69.8	60.5
Midwest	56.4	43.3	67.3	55.9	77.1	67.6	86.2	80.8	73.0	63.2
South	52.0	36.0	64.1	51.2	74.2	62.2	83.4	77.1	69.0	57.2
West	44.9	35.2	57.9	48.3	69.4	60.6	80.5	75.6	66.2	58.1

¹American Indian includes Alaska Native, Black includes African American, Pacific Islander includes Native Hawaiian, and Hispanic includes Latino. Race categories exclude Hispanic origin unless specified. See supplemental note 1 for further information on the racial/ethnic categories.

NOTE: The survey sample includes the civilian, noninstitutionalized population. Information was collected from respondents 2 weeks after the election. These estimates may differ from administrative data or data from exit polls. See supplemental note 2 for further information.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey (CPS), November 2000 Voting and Registration Supplement, previously unpublished tabulation (December 2002).

Table 15-2. Percentage of U.S. citizens ages 18 and older who reported being registered to vote and voting, by educational attainment and type of election and year: 1994–2000

Type of election and year	Less than high school	High school diploma or equivalent	Some college, including vocational/ technical	Bachelor's degree or higher	Total
Reported being registered to vote					
Presidential election					
2000	52.2	63.9	73.3	83.2	69.5
1996	54.2	65.5	76.1	85.3	70.9
Congressional election					
1998	51.2	61.9	71.4	80.3	67.1
1994	51.5	62.4	71.7	81.5	67.1
Reported voting					
Presidential election					
2000	38.4	52.5	63.1	77.5	59.5
1996	38.8	51.7	63.1	77.0	58.4
Congressional election					
1998	29.6	39.2	48.3	61.1	45.3
1994	30.7	42.9	51.5	67.4	48.3

NOTE: The survey sample includes the civilian, noninstitutionalized population. Years in which the president is elected, as well as congressional, state, and local officials, are called "presidential elections." Off years, in which congressional, state, and local officials are elected but the president is not, are called "congressional elections." For each year, information was collected from respondents 2 weeks after the election. These estimates may differ from administrative data or data from exit polls. See supplemental note 2 for further information.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey (CPS), November Voting and Registration Supplement, various years, previously unpublished tabulation (December 2002).

Voting Participation

Table 15-3. Percentage of U.S. citizens ages 18–24 who reported being registered to vote and voting, by sex, race/ethnicity, and enrollment status: November 2000

Enrollment status	Total	Sex		Race/ethnicity ¹		
		Male	Female	Black	White	Hispanic
Reported being registered to vote						
Total	50.7	47.9	53.4	51.5	52.9	38.5
Enrolled in high school	30.0	31.1	28.5	‡	35.0	‡
Enrolled in college	62.7	60.4	64.7	63.2	65.2	51.4
Full time	63.5	61.7	64.9	61.5	66.3	52.3
Part time	58.6	53.7	63.5	71.5	58.2	47.3
Not enrolled in school	50.7	47.8	53.4	51.9	52.7	39.3
18–20 years old	43.7	41.7	45.7	43.9	46.0	32.7
21–24 years old	55.4	52.0	58.6	57.4	57.1	44.3
Less than a bachelor's degree	48.2	45.6	50.8	50.8	49.7	39.1
Bachelor's degree or higher	75.9	75.7	76.0	70.6	78.9	‡
Reported voting						
Total	36.1	34.0	38.2	36.2	38.1	25.6
Enrolled in high school	24.4	27.0	20.8	‡	29.7	‡
Enrolled in college	48.0	45.5	50.1	49.5	49.8	38.0
Full time	48.3	46.5	49.8	48.1	50.5	37.8
Part time	46.4	40.3	52.4	56.4	45.4	‡
Not enrolled in school	35.7	33.6	37.7	35.4	37.5	26.5
18–20 years old	30.2	29.5	30.8	27.5	32.3	23.1
21–24 years old	39.4	36.5	42.2	40.7	41.1	29.1
Less than a bachelor's degree	33.1	31.4	34.9	33.9	34.5	26.1
Bachelor's degree or higher	61.7	61.5	61.9	58.1	64.2	‡

‡Reporting standards not met (too few cases).

¹Black includes African American and Hispanic includes Latino. Race categories exclude Hispanic origin unless specified.

NOTE: The survey sample includes the civilian, noninstitutionalized population. Information was collected from respondents 2 weeks after the election. These estimates may differ from administrative data or data from exit polls. See *supplemental note 2* for further information. Included in the totals but not shown separately are other racial/ethnic groups; see *supplemental note 1* for more information on the racial/ethnic categories.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey (CPS), November 2000 Voting and Registration Supplement, unpublished tabulations (December 2002).

Voting Participation

Table S15. Standard errors for the registration and voting rates for U.S. citizens ages 18 and older, by educational attainment: November 2000

Election participation	Less than high school	High school diploma or equivalent	Some college, including vocational/technical	Bachelor's degree or higher
Registered	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.3
Voted	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.3

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey (CPS), November 2000 Voting and Registration Supplement, previously unpublished tabulation (December 2002).

Voting Participation

Table S15-1. Standard errors for the percentage of U.S. citizens ages 18 and older who reported being registered to vote and voting, by educational attainment and selected characteristics: November 2000

Characteristic	Less than high school		High school diploma or equivalent		Some college, including vocational/technical		Bachelor's degree or higher		Total	
	Registered	Voted	Registered	Voted	Registered	Voted	Registered	Voted	Registered	Voted
Total	0.52	0.50	0.32	0.34	0.33	0.36	0.30	0.33	0.18	0.19
Sex										
Male	0.75	0.72	0.49	0.50	0.50	0.54	0.43	0.47	0.27	0.28
Female	0.71	0.69	0.43	0.45	0.44	0.48	0.41	0.46	0.24	0.26
Age										
18–24	1.27	1.05	0.98	0.89	0.87	0.88	1.69	1.93	0.57	0.55
25–34	1.62	1.37	0.88	0.85	0.83	0.87	0.71	0.80	0.46	0.48
35–44	1.41	1.27	0.70	0.72	0.67	0.73	0.59	0.65	0.38	0.41
45–54	1.51	1.44	0.74	0.77	0.68	0.75	0.56	0.62	0.39	0.42
55–64	1.34	1.36	0.78	0.85	0.86	0.95	0.73	0.81	0.46	0.50
65 and above	0.79	0.84	0.63	0.70	0.73	0.83	0.73	0.81	0.38	0.42
Race/ethnicity										
American Indian	4.35	4.09	3.30	3.31	3.78	3.84	5.50	5.76	2.02	2.06
Asian/Pacific Islander	3.69	3.53	2.44	2.35	2.41	2.30	1.86	1.93	1.22	1.21
Black	1.28	1.28	0.99	1.02	1.01	1.11	1.21	1.35	0.57	0.60
White	0.63	0.61	0.36	0.38	0.36	0.39	0.31	0.35	0.20	0.21
Hispanic	1.35	1.28	1.30	1.29	1.46	1.53	1.83	2.03	0.75	0.75
Family income										
Less than \$15,000	1.25	1.19	1.25	1.25	1.77	1.82	3.49	3.71	0.78	0.77
\$15,000–29,999	1.18	1.17	0.86	0.89	1.05	1.16	1.83	2.07	0.56	0.59
\$30,000–49,999	1.42	1.38	0.73	0.77	0.75	0.85	0.93	1.03	0.45	0.49
\$50,000–74,999	2.17	2.09	0.81	0.88	0.71	0.81	0.61	0.72	0.43	0.48
\$75,000 or more	2.60	2.50	0.96	1.02	0.70	0.79	0.39	0.47	0.36	0.40
Length of residence										
Less than 1 month	4.08	3.38	2.81	2.46	3.20	3.15	3.28	3.77	1.71	1.65
1–6 months	1.87	1.53	1.25	1.17	1.24	1.29	1.11	1.31	0.70	0.70
7–11 months	2.85	2.44	1.78	1.66	1.73	1.88	1.55	1.82	1.00	1.03
1–2 years	1.57	1.40	0.99	1.00	0.86	0.95	0.65	0.81	0.49	0.53
3–4 years	1.56	1.49	0.94	1.00	0.82	0.95	0.61	0.76	0.48	0.53
5 years or longer	0.65	0.68	0.37	0.42	0.37	0.44	0.26	0.34	0.21	0.24
Employment status										
Employed	0.85	0.79	0.41	0.42	0.39	0.42	0.33	0.38	0.22	0.24
Unemployed	2.65	2.23	2.08	1.95	2.55	2.62	3.02	3.40	1.32	1.28
Not in labor force	0.66	0.66	0.53	0.56	0.64	0.68	0.66	0.72	0.32	0.34

See notes at end of table.

Voting Participation

Table S15-1. Standard errors for the percentage of U.S. citizens ages 18 and older who reported being registered to vote and voting, by educational attainment and selected characteristics: November 2000—Continued

Characteristic	Less than high school		High school diploma or equivalent		Some college, including vocational/technical		Bachelor's degree or higher		Total	
	Registered	Voted	Registered	Voted	Registered	Voted	Registered	Voted	Registered	Voted
Citizenship										
U.S. born	0.54	0.52	0.33	0.34	0.33	0.36	0.30	0.34	0.18	0.20
Naturalized	1.70	1.68	1.55	1.54	1.79	1.82	1.43	1.49	0.81	0.82
Region										
Northeast	1.09	1.08	0.66	0.69	0.76	0.81	0.59	0.66	0.38	0.40
Midwest	1.11	1.11	0.62	0.65	0.61	0.68	0.56	0.64	0.35	0.38
South	0.81	0.77	0.56	0.58	0.58	0.64	0.53	0.60	0.31	0.34
West	1.28	1.22	0.79	0.80	0.70	0.74	0.68	0.73	0.41	0.43

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey (CPS), November 2000 Voting and Registration Supplement, previously unpublished tabulation (December 2002).

Table S15-2. Standard errors for the percentage of U.S. citizens ages 18 and older who reported being registered to vote and voting, by educational attainment and type of election and year: 1994–2000

Type of election and year	Less than high school	High school diploma or equivalent	Some college, including vocational/technical	Bachelor's degree or higher	Total
Reported being registered to vote					
Presidential election					
2000	0.52	0.32	0.33	0.30	0.18
1996	0.48	0.31	0.32	0.29	0.18
Congressional election					
1998	0.49	0.32	0.34	0.32	0.18
1994	0.45	0.31	0.32	0.31	0.17
Reported voting					
Presidential election					
2000	0.50	0.34	0.36	0.33	0.19
1996	0.46	0.33	0.36	0.34	0.19
Congressional election					
1998	0.44	0.32	0.37	0.39	0.19
1994	0.41	0.31	0.36	0.38	0.18

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey (CPS), November Voting and Registration Supplement, various years, previously unpublished tabulation (December 2002).

Voting Participation

Table S15-3. Standard errors for the percentage of U.S. citizens ages 18–24 who reported being registered to vote and voting, by sex, race/ethnicity, and enrollment status: November 2000

Enrollment status	Total	Sex		Race/ethnicity		
		Male	Female	Black	White	Hispanic
Total	0.57	0.83	0.79	1.58	0.67	1.69
Enrolled in high school	2.01	2.68	3.03	‡	2.59	‡
Enrolled in college	0.91	1.36	1.21	2.65	1.03	3.20
Full time	0.98	1.48	1.31	2.93	1.11	3.57
Part time	2.40	3.47	3.29	6.10	2.85	7.12
Not enrolled in school	0.63	0.92	0.87	1.77	0.74	1.85
18–20 years old	1.00	1.43	1.39	2.80	1.18	2.77
21–24 years old	0.81	1.19	1.09	2.25	0.94	2.46
Less than a bachelor's degree	0.66	0.95	0.92	1.83	0.78	1.88
Bachelor's degree or higher	1.78	2.89	2.25	6.41	1.86	‡
Total	0.55	0.78	0.77	1.52	0.65	1.51
Enrolled in high school	1.87	2.55	2.69	‡	2.47	‡
Enrolled in college	0.94	1.39	1.26	2.75	1.08	3.10
Full time	1.01	1.52	1.36	3.00	1.17	3.47
Part time	2.42	3.42	3.39	6.80	2.86	‡
Not enrolled in school	0.60	0.87	0.84	1.70	0.71	1.68
18–20 years old	0.91	1.32	1.27	2.52	1.09	2.48
21–24 years old	0.79	1.14	1.10	2.25	0.93	2.26
Less than a bachelor's degree	0.62	0.88	0.87	1.73	0.74	1.69
Bachelor's degree or higher	2.03	3.28	2.59	7.21	2.20	‡

‡Reporting standards not met (too few cases).

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey (CPS), November 2000 Voting and Registration Supplement, unpublished tabulations (December 2002).